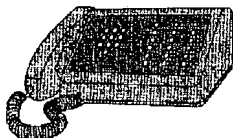


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121 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, Connecticut 06510-1241

TELEPHONE (203) 787-0595  
FACSIMILE (203) 787-5818  
E-MAIL delpet@delpet.com



## FACSIMILE COVER LETTER

<b>Our Ref.:</b>	IBMB100270000/ BUR9-1999-0267-US1	<b>U.S. Serial No.:</b>	09/650,103
<b>Fax No. Called:</b>	(571) 273-1301	<b>Filed:</b>	August 29, 2002
<b>Please Deliver To:</b>	Zeinab El Arini Art Unit 1746		
<b>From:</b>	John J. Tomaszewski		
<b>Date:</b>		<b>Time:</b>	

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IBM Docket No. BUR9-1999-0267-US1

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

## Amendment Response/Transmittal

In re application of: Francis A. Abramovich et al.

Serial No. 09/650,103

Filed: August 29, 2000

For: METHOD FOR SURFACE PREPARATION OF WORKPIECES UTILIZING FLUID SEPARATION TECHNIQUES

DeLIO & PETERSON, LLC  
121 Whitney Avenue  
New Haven, CT 06510-1241Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Date: January 14, 2003

Transmitted herewith for filing is an **Amendment/Response** in the above-identified Application.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.  
The fee has been calculated as shown below:

(Col. 1)		(Col. 2)	(Col. 3)
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA
TOTAL 27 *	MINUS	30	= 0
INDEPENDENT 4 *	MINUS	5	= 0
1ST PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS			

Other Than Small Entity	
RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
x \$ 18.00=	\$ 0
x \$ 84.00=	\$ 0
\$280.00	\$
TOTAL	\$ 0

- \* If the entry in Col. 1 is less than the entry in Col. 2, write "0" in Col. 3  
 \*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, enter "20".  
 \*\*\* If the "Highest No. Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, enter "3". The "Highest No. Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found in the appropriate box in Col. 1 of a prior amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

- ☒ Please charge the Assignee IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. **09-0456** in the amount of \$ 0. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  
☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. **09-0456**. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.  
☒ Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16.  
☒ Any patent application processing fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.


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I hereby certify that I am depositing the enclosed or attached correspondence with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on  
January 14, 2004  
Carol M. Thomas

Name of person mailing paper  
Carol M. Thomas  
 Date 01/14/04

Respectfully submitted,

BY:

  
 Attorney: John J. Tomaszewski  
 Registration No. 26,241  
 (203) 787-0595

ibmb100270000amdF-afran

AFTER FINAL

DOCKET: BUR9-1999-0267-US1

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTOR: Francis A. Ambrovich et al. ) EXAMINER: Zeinab El Arini  
SERIAL NO.: 09/650,103 ) ART UNIT: 1746  
FILING DATE: August 29, 2000 ) DATE: January 14, 2004  
FOR: METHOD FOR SURFACE )  
PREPARATION OF  
WORKPIECES UTILIZING  
FLUID SEPARATION  
TECHNIQUES )

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

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Commissioner of Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to  
the Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name: Carol M. Thomas Date: January 14, 2004

Signature: Carol M. Thomas

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Rejection Office Action mailed November 4, 2003,  
please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following  
remarks.